

The Fire and Emergency Medical Services News



New Hampshire Fire Academy



Fall 2008

A Service of New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services
"Training on the Leading Edge"

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New Hampshire Fire and EMS Responders:

Freezing weather, icy conditions, chimney fires, motor vehicle crashes, snow shoveling injuries, snow mobile accidents, and the winter list of calamities goes on and on! While we are only starting to have to wear a sweater, we need to be thinking about the next season that always brings us trouble...winter. Especially this year, with the increased cost of heating fuel and gas, many will be heating with wood or other solids which, if not installed and operated appropriately, can cause damage to the body and to the structure...please be prepared for the oncoming season and train and respond in a VERY SAFE manner!

You are welcome to attend the following rapidly approaching events:

- October 8, 2008 at 6:30 PM at the Capital Center for the Arts on South Main Street in Concord is the NH Fire and EMS Committee of Merit Annual Award Ceremony. This ceremony honors those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in 2007.
- October 12, 2008 at 2:00 PM at the site of the Fallen Firefighter's Memorial on the grounds of the New Hampshire Fire Academy will be the Second Annual Fire Service Memorial Service. The second Sunday in October is officially Fire Service Memorial Day in New Hampshire. We will honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in New Hampshire.
- November 6, 2008 at 7:00 PM the New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission will bestow the Fire Academy Awards at the New Hampshire Fire Academy. Being honored this year are: Captain Joe Butts, Commissioner John Barthelmes, Chief Robert Crowell, President Dave Lang, and Captain Mike Clark. Receiving the Fire Service Award of Excellence will be the committee who coordinated the NH Fallen Firefighter's Memorial site.

Again, this time of year brings us months of difficult incidents and weather...please STAY SAFE!

Respectfully,
Rick Mason

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st Thursday of each month

(Except July-August)

NH Fire Standards & Training Commission Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

NHFA

2nd Thursday of each month Tests/Retests; sittings at 9:30 a.m. and

6:30 p.m.; pre-registration required by 1st of month

NHFA

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES INSTRUCTOR PROGRAMS:

10/2—10/28 Emergency Services Instructor I

Nashua Fire Department

11/4—12/2 Emergency Services Instructor I

Derry Fire Department

FIREFIGHTER PROGRAMS:

10/16 —12/12 Firefighter IB

NHFA

10/28 — 1/29/09 Firefighter IB

NHFA

11/12 — 2/8/09 Firefighter IB

NHFA

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAMS:

10/11 — 10/12 Hazardous Materials Decontamination

Amherst Fire Department

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS:

11/12 — 11/13 F275 Fire Prevention for High-Risk Populations: Age & Disability Factors

NHFA

12/9 — 12/10 F347 Community Risk Issues & Prevention Interventions

NHFA

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS:

11/13 AWR-160: WMD Awareness-Level Training

NHFA

11/4 — 11/9 Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Keene Fire Department

Keene Fire Department

11/3 — 11/6 Introduction to Technical Rescue Skills (ITRS)

NHFA

AIR CRAFT FIREFIGHTING PROGRAMS:

10/20 — 10/25 Airport Firefighting NFPA 1003

NHFA

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAMS:

Watch for future listings

EMS PROGRAMS:

1/7, 1/14, 1/21 Basic RTP

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ESCI Education Training Center

New Basic First Aid and CPR Instructor Training Initiative

-Chris Rousseau

We bring good news to the world of First Aid and CPR/AED instruction. The Division of Fire Standards and Training and EMS has partnered with the Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI) to become a fully recognized Educational Training Center for the following disciplines:

- Basic First Aid
- Adult, Infant, and Child CPR
- Healthcare Provider CPR
- AED
- Blood Borne Pathogen

So what does this mean to our Fire and EMS providers?

As many of you know, First Aid and CPR/AED instruction is a part of every Firefighter One program we teach. It is also included in many of the First Responder and EMT-Basic courses taught by Instructor/Coordinators across New Hampshire. Each one of these Instructors (in both disciplines) currently belongs to an American Red Cross Chapter House, American Heart Association Training Center, or other certifying agency administrative office. The teaching of the material is timely and consistent; However, the possessing of the paperwork is not.

Depending on the organization to which the instructor belongs to, it could take anywhere from several days to several weeks or even a month to process the certification cards and get them distributed to the students. In many cases, the program has concluded and the students have moved on.

The issue was to come up with a way to teach the proper certifications and to avoid delays and headaches associated with the processing of the paperwork and certification cards.

That's where ECSI comes in. As an Educational Training

Center, the Division is authorized to bring on and/or certify instructors in the programs listed to the left. We are also authorized to process all related paperwork and warehouse and process certification cards, books, and materials. This means faster turn around for certification cards and better organization for all programs that are taught under the Division.

So what will this partnership do for the instructor?

- Make one central location for all First Aid and CPR Instructors who currently teach for, or wish to teach for, the Academy to send and process their paperwork.
- One location to house all of their instructor records and instructional activity.
- Faster processing time and less delay in receiving course textbooks, materials, and certification cards at the conclusion of their course.
- Access for Academy instructors to manikins and supplies for CPR programs through the Division and its field offices.
- Easy access to updates and annual continuing education training through the all ready established Instructor Network through the Division.

If you are a current First Aid and/or CPR/AED Instructor with the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or National Safety Council and would like to transfer over to ECSI certification, contact Chris Rousseau and get registered for ECSI Instructor Orientation training. Transferring over is easy. Once you have completed the Instructor Orientation, and are familiar with the policies and procedures for the Educational Training Center, you will be registered with ECSI and full reciprocity will be given as an Instructor in your current discipline.

2007 Entrance Testing Results

-Scott Merrill

2008 Entrance testing has been completed.

I thank the over 100 Instructors and 50 Department Assistance and FST&EMS Staff who worked to make the testing go smoothly. The overall results are 550 candidates signed up to take one or both tests.

Written testing had 345 candidates attend. 268 passed (77%) and 77 failed (23%).

CPAT had 310 attend. 229 passed (74%) and 81 failed (26%).

On the retake day 40 attended with 27 passing (68%) and 13 fails (32%), none of which were on the ladder raise. The ladder raise changed this year to allow only hand over hand movement, and a zero tolerance for rope slippage, a change from last year's test.

The quality of proctors made the testing a success. Thank you all.

Committee of Merit

17th Annual Awards and Recognition Presentation

-Stacey Devol

The New Hampshire Fire & Emergency Medical Services Committee of Merit announces their 17th Annual Awards and Recognition Presentation. This year's ceremony will be held at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, NH on October 8th at 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come and watch the presentation, complete with PFFNH Pipe and Drum, Color Guard, guest singers, Meredith Lund and Heidi Fraitl, singing the National Anthem, and many proud recipients and families. Being honored this year are: Captain Joe Butts, Commissioner John Barthelmes, Chief Robert Crowell, President Dave Lang, and Captain Mike Clark. Receiving the Fire Service Award of Excellence will be the committee who coordinated the NH Fallen Firefighter Memorial site.

This committee was initiated as part of the last will and testament of the late Paul W. Sypek, a Concord Fire Alarm Operator, who felt many acts of heroism in the Fire Service were unrecognized. The committee runs entirely on donations and the efforts of the committee members. Anyone wishing to donate to this worthwhile endeavor may contact the secretary, Stacey DeVol at 271-2661 ext. 31008. Don't forget we are still accepting nominations now for calendar year 2008 incidents; please see separate announcement for instructions. (On Page 6)

Free Doesn't Mean Junk!

Robert Pragoff-Special Hazards Division

When folks hear the word "free" when describing something, it often brings these thoughts to mind: "Why is it free? What is wrong with it? Why would someone give it away?" While those may be legitimate questions when used in regards to a car, boat, or refrigerator, it is not always the case with training!

There is a wealth of truly free training available to responders of all disciplines from the State of New Hampshire, both offered in-state and at sites around the country. What I am referring to is the training offered and funded directly by the US Department of Homeland Security through its partnerships with:

Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama
<http://cdp.dhs.gov/>

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
<http://respond.emrtc.nmt.edu/index.php>

Louisiana State University
<http://www.ncbrt.lsu.edu/>

Texas A&M University
<http://teexweb.tamu.edu/nerrtc/>

US Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site
<http://www.nv.doe.gov/nationalsecurity/homelandsecurity/responder.htm>

The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) is the principal vehicle through which DHS Training Directorate identifies, develops, tests and delivers training to state and local emergency responders. Specialized courses are available at these sites and in the field of responders of various disciplines. The training that these partners provide is of high quality, up-to-date & pertinent, and is, again, free. That means free. No tuition. No book fees. No equipment fees. Free. If we offer them in-state, that means no cost. If it is residential program offered at one of their sites, that also means no cost. Travel, tuition, room and meals are covered.

These training programs are open to all first responders and the applications process is easy. For out-of-state residential training, simply go to the website listed above, check out the courses and schedules available, download the application and fax it to me, Robert Pragoff here at the Fire Academy. I'll process it and send it to the training site and they will then contact you directly with confirmation and travel information. All you have to do then is show up at the airport, get on the plane and go on a great training adventure! Since 2003, over 400 responders from New Hampshire have taken advantage of these training programs, but there is plenty of room for more.

If you have any questions, please contact me either by phone or by email and I'll be happy to help you out.

Robert.Pragoff@dos.nh.gov Phone: 603-271-2661x31023 Fax: 603-271-1091

NH EMS Annual Awards

-Kathy Doolan

All 2008 Annual Award nominations have been reviewed and decisions by the Awards Committee have been made. The following recipients will be presented their awards at the October 8, 2008 ceremony along with the Fire Service Committee of Merit presentations at the Capital Center for the Arts beginning at 6:30 PM.

Congratulations to all 2008 recipients!

2008 Recipients:

Pamela Mitchell/Richard Connolly EMS Achievement Award:
Campton-Thornton Fire Rescue

Bound Tree Corporation EMS Unit of the Year Award:
McGregor Memorial EMS-Durham, NH

Dr. David J. Connor Memorial EMS Appreciation Award-The "Connor Honor":
Chief Suzanne Prentiss, NREMT-P —FST&EMS

EMS Educator of the Year Award:
Herbert "Buzz" Shaw, I/C, NREMT-I-Richmond Vol. FD

David F. Dow Memorial EMS Provider of the Year Award:
Jacqueline "Jackie" King, NREMT-B-Bethlehem FD

The event is open to the public with a reception to follow – please contact Kathy Doolan, Field Services Coordinator at 603-448-4927 or kathy.doolan@dos.nh.gov to confirm your attendance and the number of people that will be present.

CMC Rope Rescue I/II Program Hosted by NH FST

-Steve McKenna

NHFST& EMS recently hosted our second Rope Rescue I/II program taught by CMC Rescue. CMC Rescue is a California based company that provides training and equipment worldwide for rope access and rescue whether it be urban or rural, industrial or wilderness. The class was open enrollment and available to anyone with no prerequisites. There were students from New Hampshire, Connecticut, New Jersey, Ecuador and the United States Air Force. The class was a mix of wilderness and industrial rope rescue scenarios and skills, with practical sessions held here and at Rock Rimmon in Manchester.



Some of the skills covered were:
Rappelling and Belaying
Raising and Lowering Systems
Knot Passing
Litter Rigging and Tending
Pick-offs
Stretcher Evacuations
Mechanical Advantage Systems
Anchors and System Safety Factors

This class is run as a cooperative agreement between CMC Rescue and NHFST&EMS. We hope to run this class again in late summer or early fall of 2009. NHFST&EMS only hosts this program so registration through us is not required. Keep an eye on the CMC website to see the schedule of classes. www.CMCRescue.com



**New Hampshire Fire &
Emergency Medical Services
Committee of Merit
Division of Fire Standards and Training
And Emergency Medical Services
33 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03305-0002**

**NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF MERIT
AWARD PROGRAM**

The New Hampshire Fire Service & EMS Committee of Merit announces its Annual Awards Program, and again requests the support in recognizing outstanding acts of courage by career, call and volunteer fire and emergency medical service personnel of New Hampshire.

This program was initiated in 1986, after the death of Concord Dispatcher Paul Sypek. In his estate, Paul left the original funding and designated a committee to carry out the plan for this recognition. The First Annual Award Ceremony was held in 1987 and, since then, many New Hampshire fire service personnel have been given awards for their heroic actions. The Fall 2005 was the first cooperative event created to recognize both fire and emergency medical service personnel.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT NOW!

There are many Fire and EMS personnel throughout the state who have performed courageous acts that should be recognized. Any events occurring between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008 are eligible at this time for presentation at our next awards ceremony in 2009.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

A typed letter on proper organization letterhead from (a) Chief of Fire Department of designee; (b) head of a recognized fire/emergency service organization or union; (c) Town or City Manager, Mayor,

Selectman, etc. The letter is to describe the action and circumstances leading to the action. It must be a detailed report of what happened, including the type of emergency, time of day, date, and a description of conditions which made the event hazardous, dangerous or unusual.

Nominee(s)' name, mailing address, home and work telephone, fire department or organization, and rank must be included in the letter.

All paid, call, and volunteer firefighters or emergency service personnel are eligible; also, awards may be made posthumously.

Include any pertinent newspaper clippings, photographs, or videos, as well as a listing of any other awards the nominee(s) received.

Deadline: **January 30, 2009**

Mail to: NH Fire Service Committee of Merit
Stacey DeVol, Secretary
33 Hazen Drive
Concord NH 03305

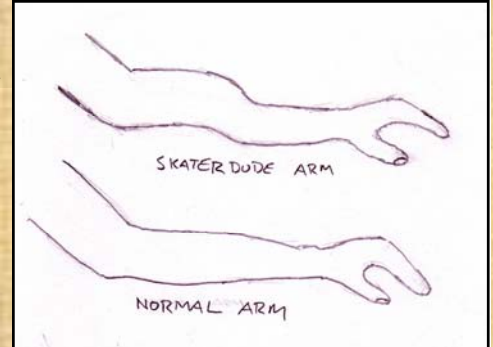
Any Questions: Contact Stacey at 603-271-2661 ext. 31008 or stacey.devol@dos.nh.gov

Trauma Case Review: Skateboarder with a Broken Arm

-Clay Odell

I recently went on a call for a 17 year old male with a possible broken arm. On our arrival we found a kid sitting close to his skateboard and the railing that he fell off of, and yep, he had a broken arm. I mean he had a nasty broken arm (see illustration). It was a closed fracture that was badly angulated, the guy was in a lot of pain, and was pretty agitated. So were his buddies, as in... "Dude, you got to get him to the hospital!!!".

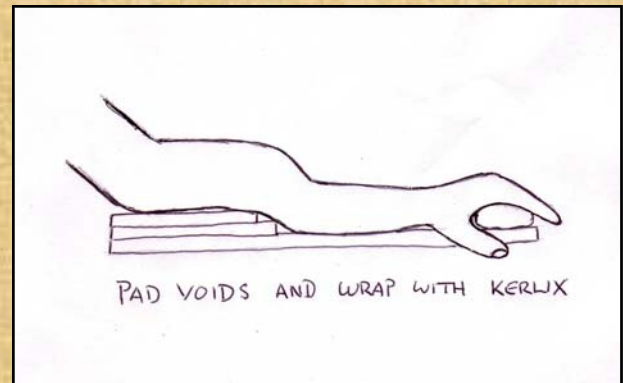
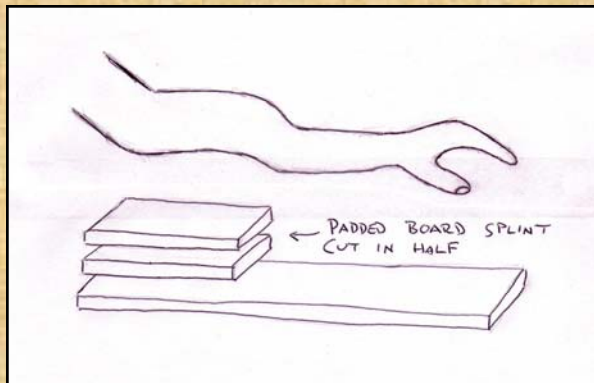
So I thought to myself, "What am I going to do with this thing? It's not gonna fit in a splint very well". My partner helpfully suggested a pillow splint. Well, not to insult anyone who thinks differently, but to me a pillow splint is something we use to cover up an injury we don't want to look at; it has little immobilization qualities. I mean; it's a pillow, it's soft! Do you rest your head on a rigid device every night when you go to bed? If so, please don't share that with me.



What I did do was immediately give him 5 mg of morphine IM in his uninjured arm, which reduced the pain quite a bit. Then I had my partner hold the patient's elbow and I gently pulled traction on his hand and wrist until the arm wasn't quite so angulated. I had a first responder apply the SAM splint I had formed while I was waiting for the morphine to work, and wrap it really well with Kerlix (not too tight-right?). CSM's were good post splint. I gave him a little more morphine (IM) and we loaded him onto the stretcher and put him in our ambulance. On the way to the hospital I started an IV and gave him some more pain control. He was a happy camper and the ED sent him to the orthopedist who took him to the OR to fix the fractures of his radius and ulna.

Did I do the right thing? They teach us in EMT and medic school to splint the fracture in the position found unless there is compromised circulation. This guy didn't have compromised circulation, so maybe I shouldn't have straightened the arm.

I've seen lots of fractures, but this one wasn't going to fit in our usual splints. I considered jury-rigging a padded board splint (see second & third illustrations). That might have worked okay. You could also do this in one of those three-sided cardboard splints, but making sure the padding under the angulated part is fairly rigid or it'll flop around. Instead I made the clinical decision to treat the pain with narcotics and make the arm fit my splint.



I guess the point of this article is that angulated lower arm injuries are pretty common, particularly among the extreme skateboard and snowboard set. These injuries are disturbing to those that get them, and they are often a population that can make scene control a challenge. Preplan for this kind of injury and you can control the scene better. My final piece of advice is to do a search for "broken arm" on YouTube and see some pretty interesting injuries that illustrate my point.

PEETE IS ALIVE AND WELL!

-Christy Dewey

PEETE'S facelift is almost complete. We have been working hard to improve the program. The taping of our new video has just been finished and we are all excited to see the program coming together and growing. Our goal with this project is to make sure that all exam evaluations are consistent throughout the state.

We have Train the Trainer programs scheduled for the end of September and another one in January to bring the *PEETE Instructors* up to date with the program changes.

Upcoming PEETE Classes

Region 1	October 23, 2008	6-9pm
Region 2	October 21, 2008	6-9pm
Region 3	October 30, 2008	6-9pm
Region 4	November 12, 2008	6-9pm
Region 5	November 22, 2008	9am - 12pm

If you are interested in becoming a *PEETE Evaluator* remember the course is open to EMT's with a minimum of one year of experience. If any one is interested in becoming a Practical Exam Evaluator Training and Education (PEETE) team member feel free to contact Christy Dewey at 602-271-2661 ext. 31013.

The Power and Purpose of the Course Evaluation

-Chris Rousseau

For many people at the Academy, the thought of requiring students in our programs to complete a course evaluation is nothing short of placing small bamboo shoots under our fingernails. Some of the most common feedback that I receive about evaluations is "why do them?" "What happens to them after the students complete them?" "Where do they go?" and "What are they really used for?"

Many think that they go into the "circular file" never to be seen nor heard from again. Others believe that we only use evaluations to play out some form of a "witch hunt" when there is a need to dispose of an instructor who is not in favor with the Division.

I can tell you that the Division uses the information gathered on these evaluation forms more NOW than ever. As you have read in previous issues of this newsletter, you know that we are well underway with our initiative to bring a higher caliber of instructor to our students and programs. We have ramped up our Instructor Certification Programs; we have placed a renewed emphasis on our Mentoring Program, and developed a new Instructor Orientation Program that incorporates both traditional classroom learning and home study via CD instruction.

In line with these tremendous efforts, we have also begun a quality improvement movement with the review of all course evaluation forms that are submitted to the Division at the completion of a fire module or program, or EMS course.

Each evaluation form is warehoused to a single location for consistent review. Those programs and instructors that are doing well are recognized for their contributions and efforts while those that are not doing as well are intercepted early on in the process.

Once an issue or problem has been discovered, communication with the parties involved starts immediately. First, notification to the Program Coordinators and Bureau Chiefs is established. Next, the involved student(s) and/or Instructor(s) are notified. As opposed to lecturing to the parties on what they are doing wrong, that is counteracted by what the Division and Academy staff can do to help facilitate a positive change and get them moving in the right direction.

If it's additional training or counseling needed to resolve a problem in the classroom, or just bringing an issue to light, the Division stands ready to work with those involved to help make things right. After all, our main goal is to provide the best possible instruction and learning environment for our students.

So please, the next time you hand out course evaluations as a Program Instructor, let the students know that their comments are reviewed and appropriate actions are taken based on their feedback and suggestions. As time goes on, the Division will implement the next phase on the quality improvement process, the creation of a central database that will track all instructors, their activity, evaluations, etc. This will only aid us in our quest to provide training on the leading edge.

“Use Your NHOODLE”

New Hampshire's EMS and Fire Distance Learning Environment

-Mike Schnyder

The Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services in partnership with the Division of Health and Human Services would like to announce their efforts to create an online distance learning environment. This system will be known as the New Hampshire EMS and Fire Distance Learning Environment or NHOODLE (pronounced “noodle”) for short and will be available to all emergency responders within the State.

The work for this project began earlier this summer with the intentions of creating the ability to provide education to providers in a manner where they do not need to travel. So far, the system will be designed to provide three distinct purposes including:

Continuing Education for Refresher Requirements

As we all know, EMS providers in the state are required to obtain continuing education hours as a means to maintain their licensure status. Sometimes, though, time and resources are in short supply to obtain those necessary hours. So, and in accordance to the National Registry requirements, the NHOODLE system will begin hosting programs to obtain credit. In the future, we hope that there will be enough hours available for a provider to obtain the National Registry's maximum amount allowed*.

In addition to online-only continuing education courses, there is a possibility of creating hybrid courses that allow the provider to fulfill such requirements such as the transition courses. This means that a provider can obtain the education online and arrange with a state instructor to obtain any skill station instruction or testing. Once again, this will allow the user to obtain the information on their own schedule, but still be capable of getting positive feedback and further instruction via personal contact.

The above hybrid method may also be used as a means to provide distance education for those with a poor Internet connection. Simply put, a continuing education course could also be placed on CD and sent to individuals to take at home and on their computer. Once they have completed the course,

they would go online just to take the quiz and to print off the certificate of completion. It is hoped that by offering this ability, that almost all providers will have access to some form of distance learning education.

Finally, the developers of NHOODLE are looking into how to accommodate certain agency's practices where continuing education is offered as a group session. Since many agencies have Internet-capability, it is possible to have them use a video projector to present a NHOODLE continuing education course. From there, each student would then be responsible to take any quiz (if applicable) as a means to obtain a certificate of completion. And speaking about a certificate, here is how the system is expected to work with continuing education courses:

The student or group accesses the NHOODLE site.

From there, they pick the appropriate course and begin the lesson.

Depending on the course, the student(s) then watch a video, presentation, or even interact with an online instructor.

Upon completion of the course, the student takes a quiz to verify that they took the course and participated in the learning process.

With the completion of the quiz, the system will create a certificate of completion which may be used for continuing education credit.

If this is a hybrid course, the student would bring the certificate with them to an event and receive either further instruction or testing. At this point the remainder of the certificate would be completed.

*The National Registry allows for up to one half of the required continuing hours to be obtained via distance learning.

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(continued from page 9)

Advanced Education such as Management Training

Continuing education is only just one level of the type of learning that can be obtained via the NHOODLE system. For instance, colleges and universities from around the state and country have established online education programs where people can complete entire degrees. With the NHOODLE system, there is the ability to have an advanced educational program online. This has multiple benefits that include the fact that students do not have to travel and lose important days attending a one or two day seminar. Additionally, one only has to remember a previous event where the course was cut short because people simply ran out of time. With an online system, there would be the ability for a course to be spread out over weeks where students can interact with their instructor and each other as they learn important topics. Yes, this might lead to homework, but that should just improve the learning process where students receive feedback on their work.

Just like continuing education, the advanced education could also be a hybrid course. Currently Fire Standards and Training is working on an instructor course which will have mostly in-person sessions, but additional work will be placed online so the student can learn even more. The same will be true with EMS courses.

Taking an advanced education course will mirror those found on college and university systems. And unlike continuing education courses, advanced courses will contain more than one topic and more than one session. The student will simply follow the session schedule and learn about each topic in turn. From there, homework could be assigned or the student will have an opportunity to interact with the instructor or fellow students.

Just-in-Time Training for Significant Events such as a Pandemic Outbreak

The unfortunate truth is events such as a pandemic

outbreak, terrorist event, or some other profound situation will most surely happen. While we hope it does not, there needs to be the ability to provide quick and responsive training in case such an event occurs. The NHOODLE system will be one conduit to provide resources and tools in an efficient manner across the state. One can only imagine that an untoward event occurs and the state needs to enact a new protocol for treatment. Those with the capability of accessing the system, can receive training in addition to the ability to download files and documents which may be necessary in an instant.

Conclusion

We hope that you see the potential in the NHOODLE system as we continue to develop the program. At this time, the sponsoring agency NH DHHS' Rural Health & Primary Care Section is obtaining the necessary contracts to bring the system online. At the same time, the Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS is developing test courses to be placed online. These courses will be available for those who want to test the system and provide feedback on how to make the system better. From there, additional courses will be developed or installed for the official release of the system. Please look for further announcements over the coming fall season.

As with any project, the success of the program will rely on the early feedback we receive from across the state. If you have an idea on how to make the system better, including a course topic, we would like to know. Simply contact one of the following people to provide your comment(s).

Suzanne Prentiss (603-271-2661,
(suzanne.prentiss@dos.nh.gov)
Eric Perry (603-223-4222,
(eric.perry@dos.nh.gov)
Michael Schnyder (603-223-4226,
(michael.schnyder@dos.nh.gov)
Chip Cooper, (603-271-4547,
(rlcooper@dhhs.state.nh.us)

New Hampshire and Vermont Firefighters Pay Tribute

Meredith Lund, Captain NHFA

On Saturday evening, September 20th more than one hundred firefighters from New Hampshire and Vermont joined together at the "National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial" in Emmetsburg, Maryland to honor brothers and sisters who gave their lives in the line of duty.

The memorial service was held as part of the Twenty-Second "Two State Weekend" at the National Fire Academy. Firefighters who traveled from both states to participate in weekend long classes paused during their busy schedule to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

They stood in quiet unity on the brick "Walk of Honor" as representatives from each state read the Roll and sounded the bell. As the sun went down on a perfect, September day, the firefighters stood in silent respect as the "Firefighter's Tribute" was read and "Amazing Grace" was sung.

This memorial site was officially designated by the [United States Congress](#) in 1990 as the [National Memorial](#) to career and volunteer fallen firefighters and stands as a tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Having the opportunity to stand at the entrance to this memorial with firefighters from across New Hampshire and Vermont to honor those who have gone before us is something that none of us will soon forget.



NH FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING & EMS LAUNCHES INTO THE TECHNOLOGY AGE!

Notice anything new? In an effort to embrace the "Going Green" movement, NHFST&EMS has decided to change to an electronic publication of the Quarterly Newsletter. We'd love you to help us save time, money and the environment by subscribing to our new version!! Please update us with your new email addresses using the form located on page 12. You will not need to send us physical/mailling address changes anymore seeing as the only version you will receive is a .pdf formatted version. This is viewable on any .pdf reader (ie: Adobe Acrobat)! Don't have one? Simply go to <http://www.adobe.com> and click "downloads". Choose a reader that is right for your computer!

Staff Biographical Sketches

With the addition of new full-time staff at the Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services, the Fire and Emergency Medical Services News is again printing profiles of Division employees. This will assist you in putting a face with a name so you will know who you are talking to when you call.

Brad Weilbrenner, *Program Specialist III*



Brad Weilbrenner joined the Research and Quality Management section as a Program Specialist III on March 31st of this year. He has been a full-time pre-hospital care provider for the last fifteen years, a paramedic for nine of those years, and has worked for various services during that time. Brad received an Associates Degree in Emergency Medical Services from NH Technical Institute and a Bachelors Degree in Applied Technology with a option in Education and Training from Granite State College. He is currently matriculated into the Masters of Educational Technology at Boise State University.

Brad lives in Loudon with his wife Susan and their three sons Jared, Drew, and Evan. He enjoys spending time with his family, as well as being in the outdoors. He finds great pleasure in introducing his children to the outdoors and exploring what nature has to offer.

Christy Dewey, *PEETE Program Coordinator*

Christy Dewey started work as an Instructor Aid/Clerk in July of 2007. In June of 2008 she was promoted to PEETE Program Coordinator. Christy grew up in the Upper Valley and now resides in Westmoreland, NH with her husband, Ian and 2 little girls, Kylee (5) and Mya (10 months). Christy volunteers as an EMT-I with the Westmoreland Volunteer Fire/Rescue Department.

She spends her free time working on their small farm where they are growing Christmas Trees, produce Maple Syrup and are raising pigs. When she is not playing with her children she likes to quilt and also scrapbook all the precious moments her little girls bring to their lives.



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